

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims in the application:

1-31. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously presented) A method of preparing a desiccant comprising the steps of:

selecting a salt solution;

drying a super absorbing polymer(SAP);

contacting the dried SAP with the salt solution in order to perform an ionic modification of the SAP; and

drying a hydrogel generated by the contact between the SAP and the salt solution.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the concentration of the salt solution is between 5-15wt%.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the salt solution comprises water as a solvent.

34-48. (Cancelled)

49. (Previously presented) A method of making a dehumidifying element comprising the steps of:

engaging a SAP to a carrier;

drying the carrier to which the SAP is engaged;

selecting a salt solution;

contacting the carrier with the salt solution in order to perform an ionic modification of the SAP; and

drying the carrier to which the SAP is engaged.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49, wherein the concentration of the salt solution is between 5-15wt%.
51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49, wherein the salt solution comprises water as a solvent.
52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49, wherein the carrier is contacted with the salt solution by soaking or spraying the salt solution into the carrier.
53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49, wherein the step of contacting the carrier with the salt solution is repeated.